

### How do we define GIFTEDNESS at Westmount Charter School?

- Westmount is a Charter school with a mandate to teach intellectually gifted students. These students have been assessed and present with an FSIQ/GAI of **130 +/- 5** or higher. *(See further assessment information in Step #2)*
- Students are gifted when they perform, or show potential for performing, remarkably high levels of accomplishment in learning rate, depth of knowledge, and reasoning and problem-solving abilities when compared to others of their age, experience, and environment.
- Giftedness is *asynchronous development* in which advanced cognitive abilities and heightened intensity combine to create inner experiences and awareness that are qualitatively different from the norm. This asynchrony increases with higher intellectual capacity. The uniqueness of the gifted renders them particularly vulnerable and requires modifications in parenting, teaching and counseling in order for them to develop optimally. (Columbus Group, 1991)

## 2023 – 2024 Admissions Information

- We will be hosting an Open House November 24, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm for **completely new families to Westmount** interested in grade 5-10. This is not intended as a transition evening for current students.
- Please be aware we do not anticipate much movement in grades 5 - 9 for the 2023 - 2024 school year but you are always welcome to apply. We are now at the maximum numbers for our Charter as well as building capacity.
- We are not able to entertain private meetings or tours. We receive dozens of requests each week and we are simply not staffed to accommodate these ongoing requests. There are virtual Open House videos on our website and links and documents to guide you through our program. Students who have been offered space for September 2023 will be invited separately to an orientation in August prior to the start of school.
  - Each year we are able to offer approximately 10 – 12 spaces in grade **5 only**. These spaces only become available at this grade level to accommodate for the increase in class sizes from the elementary campus to the mid-high campus. *We received 117 applications for grade 5 for the 2022-2023 school year.*
  - As in the past several years, we anticipate extremely limited space for grade 6 – 8 (less than 2 spaces per grade). You are welcome to apply but we will not know of possible availability until our current students have re-registered in the spring. *For the 2022-2023 we received an average of 55 applications for each of these grades.*
  - We may be able to offer between 10-15 spaces for grade 9 and approximately 15 spaces for grade 10 applicants who met our admission criteria for our gifted program. *For the 2022-2023 school year we processed approximately 75 applications for high school.*
  - If everyone re-registers, there may be no spaces to offer.
- All applications must include a psychological assessment indicating for giftedness in order for an application to be considered. You can call any psychologist you feel comfortable working with. We do not endorse any one individual or organization. The Psychological assessment is valid for up to 5 years.
  - ✓ <http://www.yellowpages.ca/search/si/1/Psychologists/Calgary+AB>
  - ✓ Please refer to the Administrative Procedure AP-300 regarding Student Selection for further information. [http://www.westmountcharter.com/charter\\_board/policies\\_procedures.html](http://www.westmountcharter.com/charter_board/policies_procedures.html)
- If we are unable to offer your son or daughter a space at Westmount Charter School for the 2023 – 2024 school year, you will need to re-apply for **each school year** with completely new application documents.
- **We do not maintain a waitlist from year to year.**

## **Mid-High (gr 5-12)** **Admissions Timeline**

### **October 4, 2022 - February 15, 2023**

- ✓ Applications open using new School Engage online application process.
- ✓ <http://www.westmountcharter.com/admissions/midhigh.html> review and follow all steps.
- ✓ February 15, 2023 - Deadline to submit a completed online application by 3:00 p.m.
- ✓ Website has the full instructions and checklist in step 4.
- ✓ Completed applications, including **all** accompanying documentation, are to be submitted through School Engage prior to the deadline. Do not upload additional documents after you have submitted the applications as the program does not notify us of updates.
- ✓ Have all relevant documents pre-scanned into .PDF format prior to beginning the online process.
- ✓ Emailed documents will not be accepted.
- ✓ SchoolEngage account holder will be emailed automatically from School Engage to confirm we have received the completed application and then throughout the process until September 28, 2023.
- ✓ SchoolEngage account holder should continue to monitor their emails and/or your School Engage account for updates.

### **March/April 2023:**

- ✓ Families will be emailed with a recommendation of suitability for the Westmount Mid-High program.
- ✓ *This email is not an offer of a space for the 2023/2024 school year.*
- ✓ Offers for placement will be emailed specifically to families once available space has been determined.

\*\* Applications received **after** February 15, 2023 not be accepted unless otherwise indicated on the Grade 5 through 12 Admissions page on our website.